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[Inclosure.]

LONDONDERRY, January 6, 1900.

SIR: I am in receipt of yours of the 5th instant, in regard to the number of ships touching at this port en route for the United States. I give you below the numbers since 1895, inclusive. The passengers from this port vary much. From April till the end of June I would say that the average would be about 150 of all classes, the steerage, of course, predominating. On 1 steamship in April last we embarked 503, all classes, while before the end of May the numbers had dwindled down to 20 and sometimes 30 and often not over 15. When the number falls under 12 they are generally sent to Glasgow where they embark and the ship does not call at this port. The ships calling here are all from Glasgow, those from Liverpool going via Queenstown.

This winter has been particularly dull in shipping, only a ship calling once in two or three weeks, owing not only to the scarcity of emigrants, but on account of the ships having been nearly all taken as transports. The withdrawal for the past two or three years of the Canadian mail steamers, which made Portland, Me., their terminal port in winter, has also caused a falling off in the number of ships for the United States, they now going to St. Johns.

I shall be happy to give you any other information in my power if you require such.

Number of vessels calling at this port were in 1895, 91 steamships with passengers, and 4 vessels without passengers; 1896, 92 steamships with passengers and 4 vessels without passengers; 1897, 81 steamships with passengers and 4 vessels without passengers; 1898, 67 steamships with passengers and 4 vessels without passengers; 1899, 60 steamships with passengers and 2 vessels without passengers. With the exception of 2, sailing without passengers, all were sailing vessels, going out in ballast.

Respectfully,  
Dr. J. H. OAKLEY.

P. T. RODGERS.

ITALY.

*Report from Genoa.*

GENOA, ITALY, January 8, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit the following report of the transactions of the Service at this port for the week ended January 7:

January 4, steamer *Auguste Victoria*, Hamburg-American Line, bound for New York via Naples; 41 cabin and 49 steerage passengers, with 40 pieces of baggage, taken on here, were inspected and passed; steamer *Tartar Prince*, with light cargo, for New York, 9 steerage passengers and 11 pieces of baggage inspected and passed. A steerage passenger, recently from Trieste, having a temperature of 39° C., was detained for observation.

The following vessels were inspected and given bills of health on January 6: The bark *Pax*, Dutch, in ballast, for New York; steamship *Sicilia*, Italian, light cargo of oils, for New Orleans, La.

The general health of the community may be said to be excellent, though scarlet fever and measles are prevalent among children. A case of variola was reported in December.

Respectfully,

RUPERT BLUE,

*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL.

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.**Reports from Naples.*

NAPLES, ITALY, January 10, 1900.

SIR: I have the honor to report that for the week ended January 10, 1900, bills of health were issued to the following ships:

January 10, to the steamship *Auguste Victoria*, of the Hamburg-American Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 11 cabin and 434 steerage passengers and 106 pieces of large and 456 pieces of small baggage. January 5, to the

British steamship *Marstonmoor*, bound in ballast for Pensacola, Fla. January 7, to the steamship *Tartar Prince*, of the Prince Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 8 cabin and 489 steerage passengers and 100 pieces of large and 588 pieces of small baggage. January 8, to the Italian steamship *Sicilia*, bound with cargo for New Orleans, La. British steamship *Larne*, bound in ballast for Baltimore, Md.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,  
*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

#### JAPAN.

*Consulting board of foreign physicians appointed at Yokohama on account of plague.*

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, December 28, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I was, a few days ago, approached by the Japanese authorities who requested me to recommend, from the foreign physicians of Yokohama, and including myself, a board or committee to act in a consultant and advisory capacity with the emergency health board of Japanese medical men recently organized as an additional precaution in the fight against the plague.

I consented to do so on the understanding that the physicians recommended, if already in the service of their own Government, should receive no compensation; and nominated Dr. E. Wheeler, British consular physician; Dr. P. Koch, staff surgeon, Imperial German Navy, in charge of German Naval Hospital here, and as a convenient and skilled intermediary and interpreter, Dr. K. Rokkaku, sanitary inspector for Hawaii, a man recognized and respected by the foreign and native profession alike.

This selection should prove a strong one if the organization is allowed any opportunity for work.

All the gentlemen nominated have accepted and we are now in consultation with the Japanese officials, going over various questions connected with the campaign against the pest.

I am quite sufficiently occupied already, but, under the circumstances, I think that you will agree that I could scarcely refuse the courteous and complimentary request of the Government, a request that, in view of their recent determination and efforts to do without the assistance of foreign experts, is a decided concession on the part of the authorities.

Respectfully,

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,*  
*Sanitary Inspector, Yokohama.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

#### *Report from Yokohama—Plague deaths.*

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, December 29, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the summarized official returns give a total of fatal cases of plague, from the apparent beginning of the present outbreak, November 5 to November 21, as follows: Hiogo Ken, 20; Osaka Fu, 12; Nagasaki, Hiroshima, Fukuoka, Wakayama, and Shidzuoka kens 1 each, 37 in all, and, as every clearly diagnosed case